



FSM Anti-Human Trafficking Day, 22 January 2015

Essay Contest

Theme : Our Citizens are not for Sale - Stop Human Trafficking in the FSM

Instructions for the Essay

Prepare a multiple-paragraph writing sample of about 300 – 600 words on the topic above. You should take your time to plan, write, review, and edit what you have written. Read the assignment carefully before you begin to write.

Your writing sample will be scored on the basis of how effectively it communicates a whole message to the readers for the stated purpose. Your score will be based on your ability to express, organize, and support your opinions and ideas, not the position you take on the essay topic. The following five characteristics of writing will be considered:

1) Focus

The clarity with which you maintain your main idea or point of view.

2) Organization

The clarity with which you structure your response and present a logical sequence of ideas.

3) Development and Support

The extent to which you elaborate on your ideas and the extent to which you present supporting details.

4) Sentence Structure

The effectiveness of your sentence structure.

5) Mechanical Conventions

The use of adequate vocabulary and grammatical structures.

- Be sure to write about the topic indicated above and use multiple paragraphs. Make a research on the topic and you may use reference materials. The reference materials should be used appropriately and indicated in footnote. Plagiarism is the use of words and/or ideas from another author that you fail to cite. Remember to review your writing and make any changes you think will improve you have written.

Format:

- MLA format. Google “mla owl” for online MLA format guidelines
- 300-600 words (2 pages)
- No title page
- To cite references is mandatory

Due date: 19 January 2015

Good luck!

Scoring

Holistic scoring will be used to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the writing sample as evidenced by how well a piece of writing communicates a whole message. Each writing sample will be evaluated based on its overall impression, not on the basis of the individual writing characteristics in isolation.

Each response is evaluated based on the following features of writing:

- Focus,
- Organization,
- Development and Support
- Mechanical Conventions.

Scores will be reported on a scale from 2-12 reflecting the sum of four readers’ scores. A score of zero indicates that the essay was off topic, too short to be evaluated, or in some other way not able to be scored. Descriptions of each score are shown below.

Score Description

2

This writing sample shows little evidence of mastery of organization, development, focus, sentence structure, usage, and conventions.

3

This writing sample is largely unsuccessful at communicating a main idea or point of view, and there is little evidence of an organizational structure. Ideas lack focus and development and there are many errors in mechanical conventions of usage, sentence structure, grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

4

This writing sample attempts to address the topic, with little success. There is often no clear statement of a main idea or point of view and there is confusion found in the writer's efforts in presenting supporting detail. Any organization that is present fails to present an effective sequence of ideas. There are many errors in mechanical conventions of usage, sentence structure, grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

5

This writing sample addresses the topic with limited success. There is some evidence of a main idea or point of view, but there is difficulty in articulation. An attempt at organization is made, but meets with limited success. There are significant errors in mechanical conventions of usage, sentence structure, grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

6

A limited writing sample in which the characteristics of effective written communication are only partially formed. Statement of purpose is not totally clear and although a main idea or

point of view may be stated, continued focus on the main idea is not evident. Development of ideas by the use of specific supporting detail and sequencing of ideas may be present, but is incomplete or unclear. The response may exhibit distracting errors or poor precision in the use of grammatical conventions including poor sentence structure, poor word choice, poor usage, poor spelling and punctuation.

7

A restricted writing sample that only partially communicates a message to the specified audience. The purpose may be evident but only partially formed. Focus on the main idea is only partially evident. The main idea is only partially developed with limited supporting details. While there is some evidence of control in the use of mechanical conventions such as sentence structure, usage, spelling and punctuation, some distracting errors may be present.

8

An adequate writing sample that competently communicates a message to a specified audience. Though the purpose of the writing sample may be clear, the development of supporting details may not be fully realized. The writer's organization of ideas is evident but may lack specificity, be incomplete or not developed in effective sequence. There is evidence of control in the use of mechanical conventions such as sentence structure, usage, spelling and punctuation, though minor errors in the use of conventions may be present.

9

A very good writing sample that substantially communicates a whole message to a specified audience. A purpose and focus is established, but only partially developed. An organizational pattern is evident, but is only partially fulfilled. The writer competently handles mechanical conventions such as sentence structure, usage, spelling and punctuation, though very minor errors in the use of conventions may be present.

10

A strong writing sample that effectively communicates a whole message to a specified audience. The writer establishes a purpose and maintains focus throughout the writing sample. The writer exhibits strong control in the development of ideas and clearly specifies the supporting detail. There is evidence of mastery of mechanical conventions such as sentence structure, usage, spelling and punctuation.

11

An excellent writing sample that very effective at communicating a whole message to a specified audience. The writer establishes a clear purpose and focus is effectively maintained throughout the writing sample. Ideas are well developed and well supported. The writer clearly demonstrates mastery of sentence structure, usage, spelling and punctuation.

12

An outstanding writing sample that is very effective at communicating a whole message to a specified audience. The response is well organized and maintains a clear central focus with a clearly stated purpose. The writer exhibits superior control in the development and support of ideas. The writer demonstrates superior facility with mechanical conventions such as sentence structure, usage, spelling and punctuation.